• COLORADO RIVER •

AQUEDUCT NEWS

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

VOLUME XX JULY, 1953 No. 7

Board Would Accept Ventura County Area

The Ventura County area would be accepted as an annexation unit to the Metropolitan Water District under terms and conditions generally in accordance with the established annexation policy of the District.

This was the official statement made on July 21 by Board Chairman Joseph Jensen in a letter addressed to Lloyd McCampbell, Chairman of the Ventura County Water Development Committee.

Chairman Jensen's letter was sent in reply to an inquiry placed before the Board's Water Problems Committee by the Ventura committee which had been appointed by the Ventura County Board of Supervisors.

Action of the Board of Directors was in response to the Ventura inquiry, Chairman Jensen pointed out, and is in accordance with the policy of the Metropolitan Water District to make available to Southern California service areas adequate supplies of water to meet expanding and increasing needs in the years ahead. In this connection, the Board has been mindful of the need of a supplemental water supply for Ventura County areas and has been moved by the desire to make available the water urgently required.

Terms under which the Ventura County area would be accepted as an annexation unit, Chairman Jensen's letter stated, include the following conditions: (1) water delivery lines to points of use in Ventura County would be constructed by the annexing area from the District's lower feeder near the mouth of the Santa Ana Canyon in Orange County; (2) the area accepted as an annexing unit would include all of Ventura County, excluding the mountainous territory and would be required to be organized as a municipal water district; and (3) annexation proceedings would be required to be com-

(Continued on Page Two)

A civic luncheon honoring Mayor Norris Poulson for his public service in Congress in protecting California's Colorado River water rights was sponsored by the Colorado River Association on June 29. Above (left to right), District Board Chairman Joseph Jensen, Mayor Poulson, Congressman Ken Regan (D), Texas, and Ben P. Griffith, President of the Colorado River Association, join in a Colorado River water toast.

Water Officials, Civic Leaders Pay Tribute To Mayor Poulson For Role In Water Fight

In recognition of his outstanding work in Congress in protecting California's Colorado River water rights, Mayor Norris Poulson of Los Angeles was honored June 29 at a luncheon given by the Colorado River Association.

District board members and officials headed by Chairman Joseph Jensen joined with many of Southern California's top water officials and civic leaders in paying tribute to Mayor Poulson's activities as a former member of the House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee where he rendered outstanding public service in blocking a series of Arizona bills which threatened California's Colorado River water supply. At the time he resigned from Congress he was serving his fifth term and was Chairman of the sub-committee on Irrigation and Reclamation.

Ben P. Griffith, President of the Colorado River Association and Chairman of the luncheon meeting, said in referring to Mayor Poulson's great public service in Congress: "Norris Poulson should be known as 'Mister Water' because of his intense interest in safeguarding our vitally important Colorado River water resources. It is a fact that Mr. Poulson made water his great specialty in Congress and it is for his outstanding achievements in that

(Continued on Page Two)

• COLORADO RIVER •
AQUEDUCT NEWS
THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

306 WEST THIRD STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Published monthly in the interest of Field and Office Workers on the Colorado River Aqueduct, and for the information of all other citizens of the Metropolitan Water District.

Vol. XX July, 1953 No. 7

Honor Mayor Poulson

(Continued from Page One)

field, which is so important to Los Angeles and all Southern California, that we have met here today to express to him our thanks and appreciation."

Board Chairman Joseph Jensen, one of the principal speakers at the luncheon, said:

"There are many reasons why our people in the Metropolitan Water District have good reason to be thankful to Norris Poulson, and to count him as our friend.

"He rendered great public service in leading the fight in Congress to arouse his colleagues to an understanding of the basic economic evils contained in the proposed Central Arizona Project Bill. We thank him because he stayed on the job throughout the legislative battles in the past three sessions of Congress; he never wavered nor digressed in his constant and effective fight against the Arizona bill.

"We thank Norris Poulson for his ability to make and hold steadfast friends in the causes so vital to the welfare of our people in California. We feel sure that as the Mayor of Los Angeles he will continue to carry forward the good fight in the protection of our Colorado River water rights."

Other guest speakers at the luncheon who paid tribute to Mayor Poulson's service in Congress were Evan T. Hewes, President of the Imperial Irrigation District, Samuel B. Morris, General Manager and Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles City Department of Water and Power, and Mrs. Leiland Atherton Irish, Director of the Women's Civic Committee for Colorado River water.

Among the special guests at the luncheon were members of the Los Angeles City Council and Representative Ken Regan (D) of Texas, a colleague of Mayor Poulson's on the Interior Committee.

Informal Approval Given San Diego County Areas

Informal approval of proposals to annex several areas in northern San Diego County to the San Diego County Water Authority was given by the District Board of Directors at its meeting July 14.

Favorable action by the Board was taken on the recommendation of General Manager and Chief Engineer Robert B. Diemer and the Board's Water Problems Committee headed by Director Warren W. Butler. By annexing to the San Diego Authority these areas would become part of the Metropolitan Water District. The areas tentatively approved by the board for annexation include the Rainbow-Bonsall area, the Pomerado and Carlsbad sections, the general area of the Vista Irrigation District, and the area served by the Escondido Mutual Water Company plus additional land to the south.

The Board's approval was given on condition that these areas be organized with acceptable boundaries, as municipal water districts.

Residents Of Hawthorne To Vote On Annexation

Residents of Hawthorne are scheduled soon to have the opportunity of voting on the proposition of annexing that city to the West Basin Municipal Water District as a means of becoming a part of the Metropolitan Water District.

This was indicated by officials of the West Basin District who stated that an annexation election may be held prior to October 15 of this year.

Approval to the acceptance of Hawthorne as an annexation unit within the West Basin area and the Metropolitan Water District already has been granted by the District's Board of Directors.

The Hawthorne area has an assessed valuation of about $14,000,000 and runs easterly from approximately Inglewood avenue to Roselle avenue and northerly from Rosecrans avenue to Imperial Highway.

Ventura County Area

(Continued from Page One)

pleted on or before December 1, 1954 with the provision that back taxes be paid with interest at 4%. If the annexing area desires, it may pay the unpaid balance over an amortization period not to exceed thirty years, payable in equal annual amounts with 4% interest.

For the RECORD

(The following items are noted from the report of General Manager and Chief Engineer Robert B. Diemer, filed July, 1953, covering District operations for June, 1953.)

Colorado River — During June the water level in Lake Mead rose 17.72 feet to elevation 1165.05 feet on June 30, which was 33.01 feet lower than on June 30, 1952. Usable storage was 19,277,000 acre-feet, an increase of 2,100,000 acre-feet for the month. At Hoover Dam the discharge averaged 14,000 cubic feet per second compared with 16,600 in May 1953. At Lake Havasu the water level varied between elevation 450.80 feet and 449.70 feet. The average discharge was 16,000 cfs compared with 15,400 in May 1953.

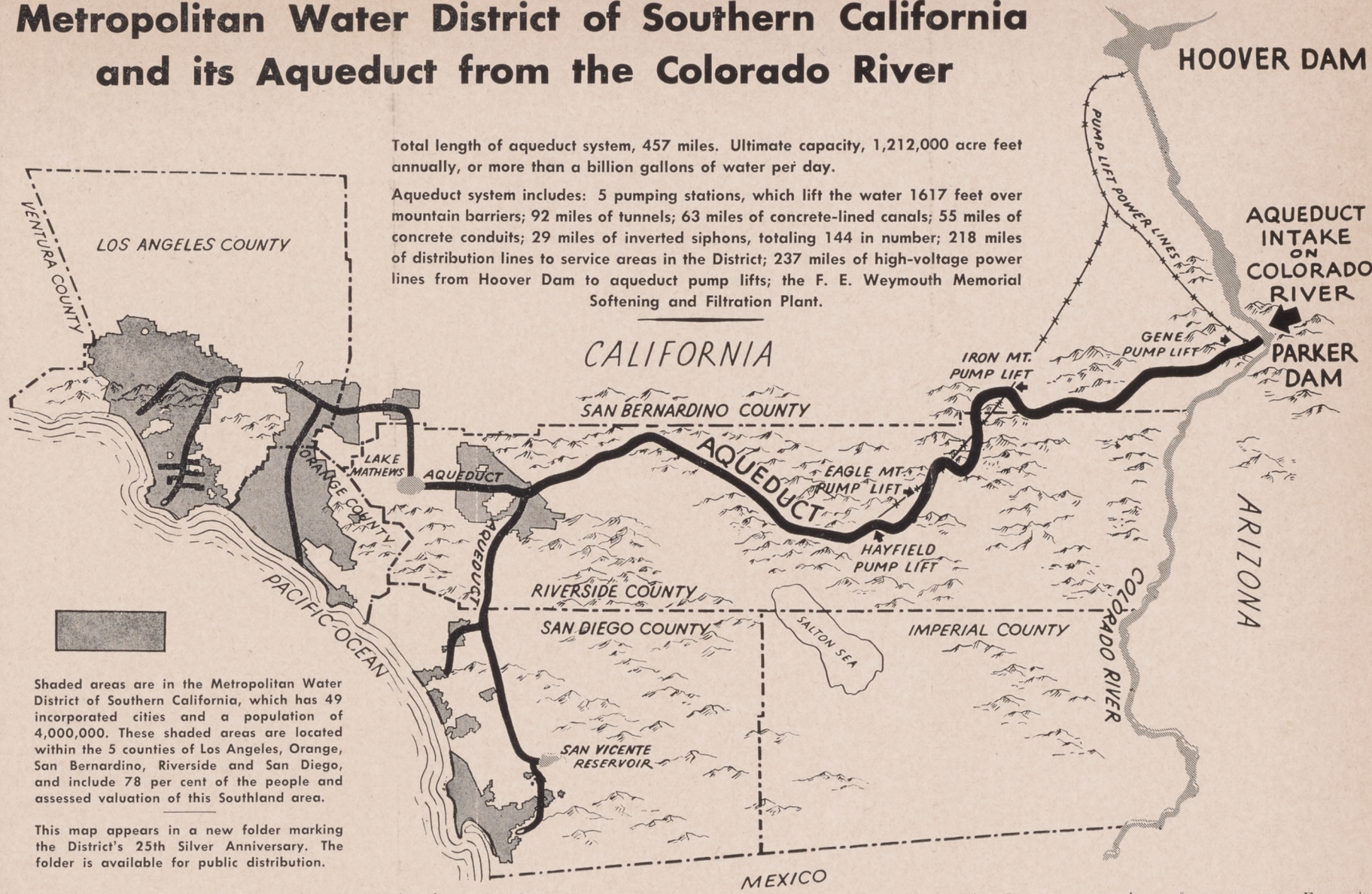
Power and Pumping System — Pumping was continuous with a one-pump output. Peak delivery to the Edison Company system was 77,000 kw. There was no delivery to the Parker system.

Distribution System — San Jacinto reservoir contained 1179 acre-feet of water at month's end. Lake Mathews contained 95,465 acre-feet, a loss for the month of 5729 acre-feet. Morris reservoir storage amounted to 22,984 acre-feet. At the Weymouth Softening and Filtration Plant Colorado River water was softened from a natural hardness of 308 to 125 ppm at an average rate of 167.7 cfs.

Construction — On the Garvey-Ascot cross feeder 2,470 feet of 60-inch concrete pipe was installed during the month for a total to date of 21,980 feet, or 74 per cent of the contract quantity. At Cajalco tunnel 633 feet was excavated, for a total to date of 4,260 feet or 64 per cent of the required length. At Garvey reservoir 284,000 cubic yards of earth were moved in June for a total to date of 1,600,000 cubic yards, 47 per cent of the required quantity. On the Victoria-223rd Street feeder, the contractor fabricated 4,000 feet of 45-inch diameter concrete pipe for a total to date of 7,792 feet or 37 per cent of the total length of 45 and 54-inch pipe required. Deliveries of concrete aggregates to Gene and Intake pumping plants were completed, and approximately 85 per cent of the required quantities at Eagle and Hayfield pumping plants had been delivered at the end of the month. On June 25 all work was completed on the Corona del Mar to Coast Boulevard pipe line.

Purchasing — In June, 295 purchase orders and 8 agreements were issued, the total amount approximating $55,000.

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and its Aqueduct from the Colorado River



Total length of aqueduct system, 457 miles. Ultimate capacity, 1,212,000 acre feet annually, or more than a billion gallons of water per day.

Aqueduct system includes: 5 pumping stations, which lift the water 1617 feet over mountain barriers; 92 miles of tunnels; 63 miles of concrete-lined canals; 55 miles of concrete conduits; 29 miles of inverted siphons, totaling 144 in number; 218 miles of distribution lines to service areas in the District; 237 miles of high-voltage power lines from Hoover Dam to aqueduct pump lifts; the F. E. Weymouth Memorial Softening and Filtration Plant.

Shaded areas are in the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which has 49 incorporated cities and a population of 4,000,000. These shaded areas are located within the 5 counties of Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside and San Diego, and include 78 per cent of the people and assessed valuation of this Southland area.

This map appears in a new folder marking the District's 25th Silver Anniversary. The folder is available for public distribution.

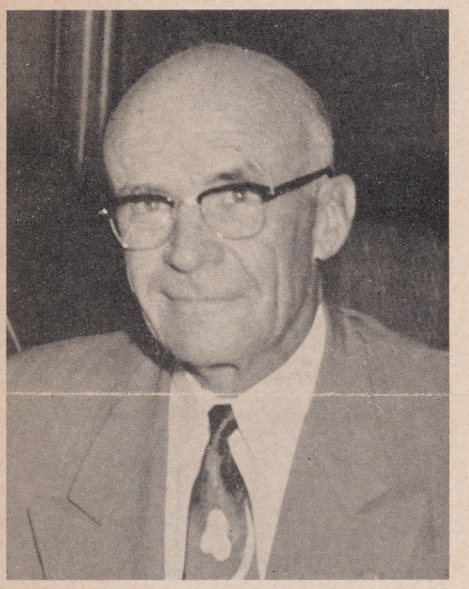
The Metropolitan Aqueduct from the Colorado River is the longest and largest domestic water supply line in the United States. It was built and is operated by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which is celebrating its Silver Anniversary this year (1953). The Metropolitan Water District was organized in 1928, with 11 cities voting to join in the program to bring an urgently needed Colorado River water supply to Southern California.

By June, 1953, there were 49 incorporated cities within the District, in addition to large unincorporated areas. More than 4,000,000 people live within the District boundaries and are eligible to be served with Colorado River water.

The mighty task of building the aqueduct was launched in December, 1932, and work was completed in its initial development nine years later, in 1941. Its cost was about $200,000,000. From its Intake pumping plant on the Colorado River, two miles upstream from Parker Dam, water is carried across the entire state of California.

To keep pace with the rapidly growing water requirements of Southern California, the Metropolitan Water District in 1953 had under way a $52,000,000 aqueduct expansion program. This work is scheduled for completion in 1955.

NEWS FROM FIELD AND OFFICE



EDGAR A. (ED) RUSSELL

Edgar A. (Ed) Russell, Senior Electrical Engineer in the Los Angeles office, has been transferred this month to Gene Village where he assumes the duties of Thomas T. (Tom) Walsh, Field Superintendent of Pumping System, since February 1939. Mr. Walsh is now on sick leave.

In July, 1940 Mr. Russell was made General Electrical Foreman at Intake and Gene Pumping plants. He later served as Station Chief at Gene and at Eagle Mountain Pumping plants.

* * * *

A card from Bill Eppinger, Assistant Engineer, reveals that he and his family are enjoying their vacation in Sequoia National Park.

* * * *

Field Secretary Rufus Fee, Mrs. Fee and the two little Fees are vacationing deep in the wilds of Idaho after visiting other sections of the Northwest.

* * * *

Eddie Dussaman, Station Chief at Iron Mountain, is touring through Utah on his vacation.

* * * *

A case of the mumps has delayed the vacation plans of Munson Dowd, Engineer.

* * * *

William W. (Bill) Aultman, formerly Water Purification Engineer in charge of the Softening and Filtration plant, returned to the District for a visit this month. Bill is now the Assistant Director, Department of Water and Sewers, Miami, Florida.

Footsore and weary and with his shell dragging "Alexander Bonelli" who has been A.W.O.L. for the past year returned home the other day. "Alexander" is the pet tortoise of Frieda Bonelli, Mails and Files Division, and of her 15 year old daughter, Joan. Frieda reports that "Alexander" apparently engaged in some riotous living while roaming the neighborhood. She bases this conclusion on the numerous deep scratches found on his shell.

* * * *

The dream of every golfer—a hole-in-one-shot . . . was realized this month by Harris V. (Harry) Crawshaw, Office Engineer. Harry was playing the fourth hole at Santa Anita golf course when he drove his ball about 150 yards into the cup.

* * * *

It warmed up out at Gene Village this month. In fact Bob Green, Maintenance Mechanic, reports that while loading a truck his wrist watch became so hot that he suffered a painful burn. A temperature reading showed the mercury had climbed to 112 degrees.

* * * *

Eugene (Gene) Bowers, Research Chemist at the Softening and Filtration plant, spent his vacation in Sequoia National Park and brings back the word that Sequoia bears take a dim view of tourist who offer them paper-thin sandwiches. They practically insist on "Dagwoods."

* * * *

Dale Batchelor, Headhouse Operator at the Softening and Filtration Plant, and his wife have just returned from their vacation and report that they spent several days visiting in Hoskins, Oregon with Bill and Gladys Davey. Bill who worked for the District for many years and who just recently retired is now operating a fishing camp in Hoskins.

* * * *

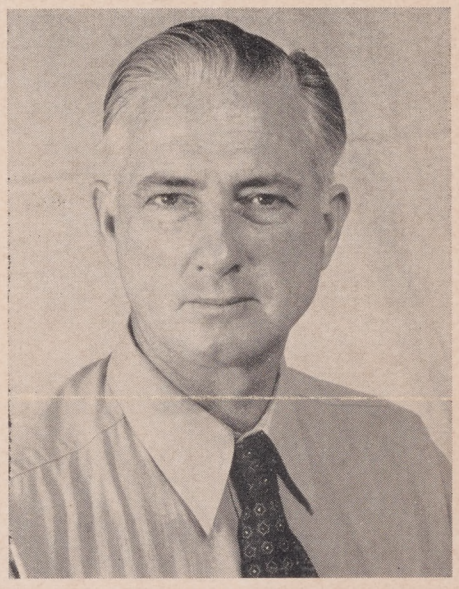
Best wishes for a speedy recovery go to Della Preiss, wife of Vincent Preiss, Maintenance Mechanic at Hayfield, who is in the Casitas Hospital in Indio.

* * * *

William Ferrell, Assistant Engineer in the Los Angeles office, and an officer in the U.S. Army Reserve Corps, leaves the end of this month for two weeks military training.

* * * *

Lawrence L. (Larry) Green, Superintendent of Aqueduct Maintenance at Iron Mountain, plans to visit the wilds of Wyoming on his vacation.



TOM CAIN

July 5 marked two decades in District service for Tom Cain and entitles him to wear a twenty year service pin. Tom started with the District as a Chainman and is now a Division Foreman assigned to the operation and maintenance of the northerly half of the San Diego Aqueduct. Present duties also include inspection on the construction of the Cajalco Tunnel.

* * * *

Belated congratulations to William (Bill) Loy, Chief Clerk, who became a bridegroom several months ago.

* * * *

The recent heat wave claimed the lives of "Joli" and "Jota", the two pet English Bull dogs owned by Paul W. (Pop) Warner, Engineer. He reports that when he returned from a shopping trip the other day he found his pets had succumbed to the heat.

* * * *

More than 200,000 visitors to the San Diego Fair at Del Mar, this month viewed the District's exhibit which illustrated the importance of Colorado River water to the homes, industries and agriculture of Southern California.

The exhibit covered a 20' x 20' area and received a special award in recognition of the graphic manner in which the Colorado River water story was told.

In addition to photographs and color transparencies, the exhibit included two large maps, one showing the areas served by the District and the other showing the distribution lines, reservoirs and facilities of the San Diego County Water Authority which is part of the District.